THE

Theatrical Observer.

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"*Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice.*"

No. 11. *Thursday, Nov.* 15, 1821. *Price* 1*d.*

COVENT GARDEN.

So great and general was the feeling of delight excited in the audience on Thursday, by the representation of *The Twelfth Night*, that when at its conclusion Mr. Abbott advanced to announce for last evening's performance, *The Exile*, &c., we shrunk as from the envious prototype of Discord, tempting our follies with *his* golden fruit (apologizing for the license we take with the sex). The excellence of the acting, the sweetness of the music, the rich humour of the play, and the extreme delight of the auditors, all induced us to cherish the fond hope, that the rays of classic taste and pleasure were beaming forth again dispelling, like Aurora's smile, the envious veil of darkness.

The Exile went off last night in the manner it *usually* does; nor do the principal actors in *The Coronation* appear to have lost in the repetition of their efforts that portion of the public notice which their unrivalled assumptions of greatness of character entitle them to command. We are highly amused each night of the representation of this piece with the burst with which *John Bull* vents his national feelings, in greeting the mock representative of his country. There is something in this to an *Englishman pleasing*,—to a *philosopher*, or a severe *observer* of mankind, *absurd*; yet without entering into any moral disquisition on such a subject, we confess that as *men* we feel gratified at witnessing the expression of a happy feeling in the lower classes of society, (although excited probably at the expence of reason) when it flows from that sentiment which is the birthright of patriotism, courage and honour, and the seat of all those associations connected with the softer domestic ties of man.

The Day after the Wedding followed the Opera, and was well

performed. Mrs. CHATTERLEY, as *Lady Elizabeth Freelove*, and Mr JONES, as *Colonel Freelove*, met with great applause.

The House was excellently well attended.

The play of *The Stranger* is announced for this evening, and a Miss BAKEWELL makes her first appearance before a London audience in the character of Mrs. Haller; a part selected, we are told, more from the necessity of circumstances, than from the feeling of private inclination, so much for the Theatrical palliation of an *acknowledgment* of a *certain* portion of indelicacy or some such cause.—The lady in question is, we understand, of a respectable family in Yorkshire, and performed with considerable success in the Liverpool, Manchester, and other Theatres.

DRURY LANE.

WE are delighted at being able to record the performances of an evening chiefly devoted to the *legitimate* Drama, and that a numerous and brilliant assemblage were attracted by it; which proves the value still set on *true genius*.

OTHELLO was the play of last night—and Mr. KEAN the sable hero. We cannot say a word to those who witnessed this representation, that could elevate their admiration of this great and effective piece of acting: but to those who have not beheld it, we would fain describe the soldier-like bearing of the general—the doating love of the ardent husband—the restlessness of awakening jealousy—the whirlwind passion of the convinced dupe, which lulled for a moment by returning doubts and fondness, broke forth again but the more fiercely from the momentary calm, and burst at length with ruin on its wing—this we would paint if we could, but it is *impossible*.

There are however, some trifling points in which *Mr. Kean*, as we think, errs. His *action* although generally appropriate, has often a *redundancy* that weakens effect. Thus, he too frequently clasps his hands together, and holds them before him like an archer's bow; and as frequently puts them to his head, standing like an *Atlas* bearing the Globe. These and some other slight defects arising, perhaps, from the difficulty of varying the position, might we conceive be conquered by study. He was repeatedly cheered, and fell—we might almost say—into the very arms of fame.

Mr. COOPER'S *Iago* was very ineffective.

Miss SMITHSON'S *Desdemona* was highly interesting.

Maid or Wife? followed the Tragedy, and on Mr. ELLISTON'S appearing after his late indisposition, he was warmly greeted.

The *Duke of Wellington* was in a private box, and, on his being recognised, was loudly clapped from the Pit.

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Published (DAILY) by C. HARRIS, 25, Bow Street, and may be had of all Newsmen

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed the Play of

The Stranger.

The Stranger..... Mr. YOUNG,
Count Wintersen..... Mr. CONNER,
Count's Son..... Miss BODEN,
Baron Steinfort..... Mr. EGERTON,
Tobias..... Mr. CHAPMAN,
Francis..... Mr. FARLEY,
Solomon..... Mr. EMERY,
Peter..... Mr. MEADOWS.
The Strangers Children... Master BODEN, & Miss R. BODEN,
George..... Mr. HEATH,
Henry..... Mr. O'BRIAN.
Mrs. Haller..... Miss BAKEWELL,
(Being her first appearance on this stage.)
Countess Wintersen.... Mrs. FAUCIT,
Annette..... Mrs. LISTON.
Claudine..... Miss BEAUMONT,
Charlotte..... Mrs. GIBBS,

To which wil be added the opera of

The Barber of Seville.

In which will be introduced part of ROSINI's and PAESIELLO's *celebrated Musick* from "*Il Barbiere di Siviglia.*"

Couns Almaviva, Mr. JONES, Doctor Bartolo, Mr. FAWCELT,
Basil, Mr. J. ISAACS, Figaro Mr. LISTON,
Fiorello, Mr. PYNE, Argus, Mr. MEARS, Tallboy, Mr. KING,
Officer, Mr. COMER, Notary, Mr. ATKINS,
Rosina, Miss M. TREE; Marcellina, Mrs. STERLING,

Doors will be open at half-past 6, and the Play to begin at 7.

To-morrow, THE EXILE, with THE POOR SOLDIER.
On Saturday, the Opera of ROB ROY MACGREGOR, Diana Vernon, Miss M. Tree, with the Citizen. Maria, Mrs. Chatterley.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening will be performed, (second time) a New Comedy, called

Lost Life.

The principal Characters by

Mr. MUNDEN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. PENLEY,
Mr. HARLEY, Mr. GATTIE,
Mr. W. H. WILLIAMS, Mr. KNIGHT,
Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. FOOTE, Mr. MEREDITH
Mrs. EDWIN, Miss SMITHSON,
and Mrs. HARLOWE.

The Prologue to be spoken by Mr. Cooper, and the Epilogue by Mrs. Edwin.

After which,

The Coronation.

Principal Characters by

Mr. T. COOKE, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. KNIGHT, and Miss CUBITT
In which will be given a New Comic Song,
"*The King and the Coronation, Old England and the People.*"
By Mr. Knight, with a New Overture composed by Mr. T. Cooke.

After which, will be Performed a New Comedy in 2 Acts, called,

Maid or Wife?

Or, The Deceiver Deceived.

Principal Characters by

Mr. ELLISTON, Mr. HARLEY,
Miss SMITHSON, and Miss COPELAND

Doors open at Half-past Six and the Performance to begin at 7.

On Friday, (by the general call of the Audience,) KING RICHARD THE THIRD, *Duke of Glos'ter, Mr. Kean.*

On Saturday, LOST LIFE.